



November



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						Men's Group 9 am 1
Communion			Food Pantry 10 am Bell Choir 12:30 pm Bible Journaling 2 pm 18:20 Meetup 6:30pm	Men's Brkfst 8 am		Men's Group 9 am
AA 3pm Prayer Group 6 pm 2			5	6		8
Veterans Sunday	Wm's Bible Study 2 pm	Pinecrest 2pm	Bell Choir 12:30 pm Bible Journaling 2 pm 18:20 Meetup 6:30pm			Men's Group 9 am
AA 3pm Prayer Group 6 pm 9						15
AA 3pm Prayer Group 6 pm 16	Shoe Boxes Due!!		Food Pantry 10 am Bell Choir 12:30 pm Bible Journaling 2 pm 18:20 Meetup 6:30pm	Men's Brkfst 8 am		Men's Group 9 am
	Wm's Bible Study 2 pm		19	Helping Hands 10am		22
Hanging of the Greens 11-30		Community Thanksgiving Service 7 pm	Bell Choir 12:30 pm Bible Journaling 2 pm 18:20 Meetup 6:30pm	Community Meal 12pm		Men's Group 9 am
AA 3pm Prayer Group 6 pm 23/30	Wm's Bible Study 2 pm BOG Meeting 7 pm 24					29

BIRTHDAYS:

Nov 2	Ryleigh Crabtree	Nov 13	Kathy Heilman
Nov 4	Cathy Brey	Nov 13	Jennifer O'Brien
Nov 7	Gail Ranville	Nov 13	David Skeels
Nov 8	Liz Limberg	Nov 14	Todd Williams
Nov 9	Arial Durant	Nov 15	Nancy Hinsman
Nov 9	Ayden Crabtree	Nov 15	Elise Powers
Nov 9	Lucas Powers	Nov 23	Loretta Martinek
Nov 10	Weston Martin	Nov 28	Katie Strittmatter
Nov 11	Sue Kohs	Nov 28	Nan Keck



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS
& ANNIVERSARIES

ANNIVERSARIES:

Nov 10 Don & Jan Hawver

Global Methodist and ECO Presbyterian
Church of the Straits



P.O. Box 430 * Mackinaw City, MI 49701

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Mackinaw City
Michigan 49701
Permit No. 1



Mike's Musings

Sometimes life is messy. Things happen that make life hard and it feels like a struggle that we just can't bear. Like unexpected bills, or prolonged illness, loss of a job, or relationship problems. Even sometimes death of a loved one, or the pain of things that just don't seem fair. We all have them and yet we don't always deal with them in a good way. So why do we struggle so hard with life? I may be wrong, but I think it is because we don't understand where our struggles come from or who we are. Paul writes to the Ephesians in Ephesians 6:12 "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."

We must remember Satan is a liar and a thief and he wants to take our joy to stop us from being useful for God. God's word doesn't lie so we have to believe that God gave Paul these words to let us know the truth. If our struggles are with Satan, we have a solution that God gave in Ephesians 6:13-17 "Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."

Remember we don't stand alone. God has a plan, and He uses the evil that Satan intends for harm for good. Romans 8:28 says, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." I also want you to remember who you are when you became a Christian. In 1 John 3:1 it says, "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!" So, remember this too, that God counts us as His children and we are then co-heirs with Christ. Fight the good fight against the devil by daily trusting your life to God. He wants the best for you, but you must give it up to Him if you are to thrive. If you are struggling today don't struggle any longer. Ask God to help and I'm confident that He will. God is always the answer to what is wrong in your life.



Operation Christmas Child

Boxes are ready to be filled! Please fill and return before **Nov 17th**. List of items are in each box. If you don't

want to shop, there is a box located on the Samaritan table near the entrance taking donations for shipping. Thank you all for helping the children have a blessed Christmas. **For November: older kids: tape measure, craft hammer, sewing kit, mixing spoons, spatulas, plastic utensil sets, calculator, flashlight & batteries....**

Food Pantry Resumes Nov 5th 10am

Help is needed to support healthy nutrition for those in need. We will need donations and help to distribute food on the day of the events. Please plan to help out if you are able. Thanks!



For Sale: Santa's Secret Training Center Book

A fun way to teach children why Santa (St Nicholas) "started" giving gifts to the world. Families can start a new Godly Christmas tradition by reading this story every Christmas.

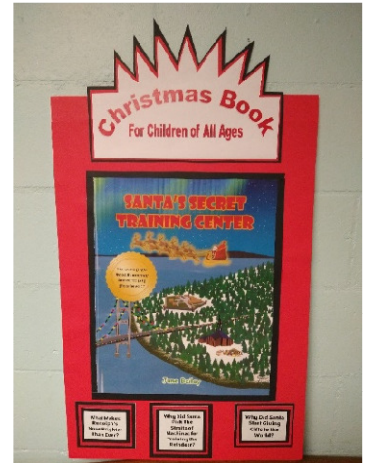
The story takes place in the Straits of Mackinaw and ends at our very own nativity scene.

100% of the profits will be going to Children's Ministries.

Books will be back in Church mid Nov.

Any questions please call June Bailey 989-385-5050 or the Church office.

Out of towners can buy on Amazon.com



Coffee Hour and Liturgist Sign Ups

Please see the various sign-up sheets by the entrance to the church. We always need help with Coffee Hour and for readers on Sunday.



COMMUNITY WORSHIP THANKSGIVING SERVICE

- COS together with St.

Anthony's Catholic Church will hold the Annual Community Thanksgiving Worship Service on Tuesday, November 25th at 7 pm. The service will be held at COS. Please join us for this special holiday tradition.



Join us for



Thanksgiving
Dinner

Community Thanksgiving Dinner

We will be hosting a dinner on Thanksgiving Day (Nov 27th) at Noon. Please bring a dish to pass. Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Stuffing, and Beverages will be provided. Please sign up.

Thank You!

Lisa and I want to say a huge thank you to all of you who shared and contributed to a wonderful clergy appreciation Sunday. Your words and generosity are so appreciated. We love and appreciate you so much.

-Pastor Dave



Pinecrest Fellowship is the second Tuesday of each month from 2-3 pm. There will be a short devotional, prayer and refreshments. Everyone is welcome to come and visit with the residents.



Matthew 18:20 Meetup Group on Wed at 6:30pm
Everyone is welcome! Lead by Theodora and Nancy. It's all about Jesus. Will meet until Wed Nov 26th.

Coats for Kids

Youth Group is accepting monetary donations along with winter coats, boots, snow pants and socks. All donations stay local. **Please donate by Dec 14th**

Want something mentioned in the newsletter?
Let the Church Office know! Thanks.
(231) 436-8682 or cotsoffice@yahoo.com

Change to Make a Change
Kids helping Kids. We will be collecting your spare change as well as other donations to help support several causes this year including:

**Operation Christmas Child “Shoeboxes”
Purses with a Purpose**

We will have collection boxes for any items that are donated. Thanks for your support helping us to make a “Change” in our community.

SARM happenings

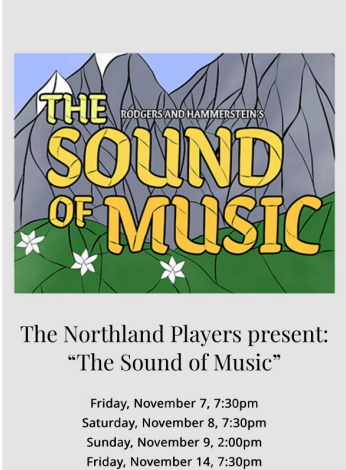
At Church of the Straits, We Love Kids!



Getting Ready for Trunk or Treat



School Supplies for Kids in Jamaca



Several Youth will be in the Play!

Upcoming Events
Decorate Christmas Tree Dec 6th
Coats for Kids Donations Due Dec 14th

Shannon Cooley at Church of the Straits. Wed-Friday 11 AM to 2 PM (231)436-8682

*SARM Straits Area Resort Ministry *COS Church of the Straits

*YMS Youth Ministry Sunday *MC Mackinaw City.

All changes to SARM schedule will be posted on SARM Youth Facebook page or you can always contact youth director Shannon Cooley at COS (231) 436-8682 for updates.

Straits Talk Newsletter

November 2025



The Mission of Church of the Straits:
To worship God faithfully
To grow together spiritually
To serve Jesus Christ and
our neighbor joyfully
...in the power of God's Spirit.

Minister	Pastor David Wallis
Youth Director	Shannon Cooley
Head Ushers	Todd Kohs
	Erin Masters
Organist	Loretta Martinek
Treasurer	Donna Falor
Financial Secretary	Laura Jackson
Clerk	Laura Jackson
Administrative Asst.	Joshua Kuehn

OUR WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Traditional Worship 10:30 a.m.
Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Office Phone: 231 436-8682
Office Hours – M-Th 9am-2pm

Pastor's cell: 906 282-7409

E-mail – Pastor – davidloveslisa87@gmail.com

Church office – cotsoffice@yahoo.com

Church website – www.churchofthestraits.com



Here is an interesting question! When God created the leaf trees like the ones we have in northern Michigan, were they (before the fall of man) intended to lose their leaves and then regrow them as they do in the Spring or were they going to be forever leaves? It is a question I don't think I can answer but here is the reason why I ask it. God speaks to us through his creation, of that I have no doubt.

An example is from Romans 1:18-20, "The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities-his eternal power and divine nature-have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse." In this text we see that God wanted us to know him through what we observe in nature and through his Word.

Because of the fall of Adam and Eve, death and decay came into the world. It wasn't just humans that were affected, but all of creation was too. Romans 8:20 says, "For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God." So, God's redemption of humankind will be lifechanging for all creation as well.

So, getting back to my original question, if man hadn't sinned, would the leaves be forever leaves or not? I don't know, but what I do know is that because we fell and we are all sinners needing a Savior, that God has used the example of the leaves dying and falling from the trees in the fall and then new leaves coming in the spring, as an example of death and resurrection, the old and the new, being born again.

The trees speak to God's plan for us in Jesus Christ. When I see the beautiful leaves in the fall of the year it reminds that death is just a part of new life. We don't need to fear death in Jesus. He will bring us from death to life. Sin brought death but Jesus brings life.

We are without excuse in seeing God's ultimate plan, redemption! I love life on this earth and would love to spend many more years here, but I am also okay with meeting my Savior, who died in my place, as I die in this life and am raised to new life in Jesus Christ. These are not morbid thoughts; these are exciting and life-giving thoughts!

Always loving you,

Pastor Dave

Pastor Dave

